

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/696,376

Examiner

Tri H. Phan

Applicant(s)

BAXLEY ET AL.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to the communication filed on September 15th, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6-11 and 27-36 (Now renumbered as 1-20).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 29 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

KENNETH VANDERPUYE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on September 15th, 2004 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of U.S. Patent No. 6,657,975 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Reasons For Allowance

2. Claims 1-4, 6-11, and 27-36 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-4, 6-11, and 27-36 are considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the specification, none of the references of record-alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in the independent claims including.

Substantially regarding claim 1, the prior art of record fails to disclose the method for the audio conferencing method in the hybrid network having a plurality of endpoints by receiving in the bridge server input from the endpoint connected to the audio conference, especially selecting the multiple control unit at the bridge server to mix the received input to form the output stream and the sum stream, matching the output stream with the endpoint and the sum stream with other endpoints connected to the audio conference and returning from the multiple control unit the

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output stream to the endpoint and the sum stream to the other endpoints in the plurality of endpoints connected to the audio conference.

Substantially regarding claims 27 and 32, the prior art of record also fails to show the method for the audio conferencing method in the hybrid network having a plurality of circuit-switched and packet-switched endpoints as the same manner set forth in claim 1, by receiving the media gateway input from the corresponding end point connected to the audio conference, transferring to the multiple control unit, especially for mixing the received input with other input to form the output stream exclusive of the corresponding endpoint input and the sum stream, matching the output stream with the corresponding endpoint and the sum stream with other endpoints connected to the audio conference and returning the output stream to the corresponding endpoint and the sum stream to the other endpoints in the plurality of endpoints connected to the audio conference for supporting the full service conferencing with the reservation system and the call agent.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Potekhin et al (U.S.2002/0123895), **Gavish et al.** (U.S.2004/0047342), **Klaghofer** (U.S.2004/0071100), **Friedrich et al.** (U.S.2004/00117218), **Shaffer et al.** (EP1077565), **Haojun et al.** ("Implementing an Audio Multipoint Processor on DSP Array", May 2001, Wuhan University, China, Multimedia Network Communication Engineering Institute, pages 441-444) and **Toga et al.** ("Demystifying Multimedia Conferencing over the Internet using the H.323 Set of Standards", Q2/1998, Intel Architecture Labs, pages 1-10) are all cited to show devices and methods for improving the teleconferencing in the communication architectures, which are considered pertinent to the claimed invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tri H. Phan, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3074. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kenneth Vanderpuye can be reached on (571) 272-3078.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,
Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office, whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Tri H. Phan
December 20, 2004


KENNETH VANDERPUYE
PRIMARY EXAMINER